



Shenley Parish Council

Mark Silverman
Policy and Transport Manager
Hertsmere Borough Council
Civic Offices, Elstree Way
Borehamwood
WD6 1WA



19th October 2016

Dear Mr. Silverman

Re: Shenley Neighbourhood Plan

I am writing to advise Hertsmere Borough Council of Shenley Parish Council's intention to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan and make an application for the approval of the area known as Shenley including the Shenley Cricket Club (Some of the land comprising Shenley Cricket Club crosses the boundary between Aldenham and Shenley Parishes. Aldenham have chosen not to include their part in their Neighbourhood Plan. However as the land concerned is part of Shenley Park Trust with the Freeholder being Hertsmere Borough Council and has been designated as open space for public use, as is the rest of the Park, we feel it is important to include it in our Neighbourhood Plan Area to ensure it continues to be treated in the same way as the rest of the Park). The Parish Council believe this area to be appropriate for designation as a Neighbourhood Area.

The Council believe that there are issues, services and activities across Shenley that would benefit from the development of a specific plan for this area particularly with experience gained from the Porters Park development 20 years ago which have negative consequences for the community today.

In accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, a map of the designated area (bordered in red) is attached to enable you to formally consider the designation of the area what will be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan.

Shenley Parish Council confirms that it is a relevant body to make an application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of Section 61G (2) of the Town and County Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Localism Act 2011.

The Neighbourhood Plan is the opportunity for the people of Shenley to determine the future of the village. For decades, planning has been centralised at the Borough Council, who have made all of the decisions relating to our parish. Thanks to the Localism Act we can now use Neighbourhood Planning to give our community the opportunity to seize the initiative and bring planning strategy closer to those affected.

Hertsmere Borough Council, under its core strategy has decreed that land must be allocated in Shenley for new homes over the next 15 year. Whilst Shenley Parish Council is sympathetic to the need to provide new homes we have already had a large development, Porters Park, which trebled the size of the village 20 + years ago and which in our opinion did not give enough consideration to the resultant needs of the community in terms of infrastructure, amenities, green space, width of roads and good design and layout to try and keep the rural heritage of the Village.

We would like to influence the type of properties built in the village to ensure a balance of sizes, styles and types. The Localism Act has given us the opportunity for self-determination. Shenley Parish Council recognises the fact that the Neighbourhood Plan is not just about housing. It enables strategies for employment, open spaces, access routes and pedestrian/cycle paths, leisure facilities and protection of the environment. It covers every aspect of the development of Shenley over the next 15 years. We hope that our plan will also specify design criteria for new development, control housing density (this is particularly important to us after our experience with the Porters Park development), allocate affordable homes and manage the impact of new developments.

Shenley Parish Council will enable the consultation but will not have any influence or control over the outcome. It is up to the community to formulate our plan. We have just started the process by having articles in our Tri annual Parish magazine, Shenley Village Matters in which we invited people interested in joining the Shenley Neighbourhood Plan Committee to contact us. We have now held three meetings. Once agreement is given by yourselves we will advertise again.

We look forward to receiving your confirmation soon, as the Council is keen to further this process quickly.

Yours sincerely,



R
Cllr Rosemary Gilligan
Vice Chairman Shenley Parish Council
Chair of Neighbourhood Planning Committee